

Grand Valley State University Student Senate

General Assembly
Thursday, February 2, 2023
Pere Marquette Room, 4:30pm
Chair: Faith Kidd
Parliamentarian: Justin Frappier



“Student Senate will cultivate a student body that is engaged, healthy, and empowered.”

I. Call Meeting to Order: 4:30 pm

- a. Moment of Silence
 - i. Native Land Recognition
- b. Pledge of Allegiance
- c. Roll Call - Part I

II. Public Comment – Part I

III. Guest Speaker

a. Abigail Sachs: Cook Leadership Academy

- i. Falls under Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies. Abby Sachs is the program manager for the Cook Leadership Academy. Emily Mckenna-Makela is the program coordinator for the CLA, she is a GV Alumni and has been at the Hauenstein center for four months.
- ii. Peter C. Cook Leadership academy is a leadership development program that is cross-disciplinary, and co-curricular. Brings you together with students from all majors and fields that are passionate about leadership. They are not tied to any program, they are a supplement to everything you are learning and help you define your own leadership philosophy.
- iii. As student senators, you are all perfect candidates already. They help you achieve your leadership goals with: cohort workshops- to self reflect on your leadership experiences 3 times a semester, public speaking opportunities, wheelhouse talks, individualized mentorship from someone in your field, professional development opportunities, and local partnerships for networking. Offer opportunities to attend and network at many events in the Grand Rapids Community.
- iv. Time commitment: Semester overview: 21 hours- 3 self reflection workshops (9 hours), 1 leader lab (3 hours), 3 wheelhouse talks (6 hours), 3 mentor meetings (3 hours) Academic year: 60 hours: 2 semesters- 42 hours, Fall orientation- 12 hours, 1 volunteer opportunity 1-4 hours, networking event- 3 hours. They stream all events on zoom and have makeup opportunities if you have a conflicting class or work.
- v. Application tips- tell them about yourself and speak from your personal experience, seek help in resources on campus like the writing center, type answers in a separate document, then copy and paste completed answers into form. Application is through the GV website so there is no way to save your answers as you go.
- vi. Upcoming events: Leader lab- in Pere Marquette Friday, February 10th 1-4pm, there will be food and you will hear from 3 leadership candidates about their leadership

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journey. Wheelhouse Talk: Mary K. Hoodhood- founder of Kids Food Basket- Friday, February 17th 4-6pm, DeVos Center, Loosemore Auditorium.

vii. Hoogwerf: how many students are accepted?

(1) Sachs: 65 students, kept small to engage with everyone.

viii. Haas: Any interview tips?

(1) Sachs: don't be too scared

(2) Kidd: be authentic. The point of the interview isn't to come across as this perfectly polished leader but to come as who you are as a person, share the approaches you take that are different, experiences you have had that have shaped you into the person you are today.

(3) Al Moutaa: before you come to the interview, know what you are looking to gain from the CLA. That way you can bring your purpose into the interview.

(4) Sachs: everyone who gets an interview is someone who has leadership experience and is a high achiever academically, they want a diverse cohort from an experience perspective, so share that.

(5) Mckenna-Makela: Really great to talk about leadership as a muscle, something that you are working on building. If you are looking at graduating, you can nominate students that you know.

ix. Hallead: What majors do you see the most?

(1) Sachs: intentionally try to build a diverse group: business, poli-sci, engineering, education are common but it changes from year to year. They currently have over 30 majors represented in 65 students. Open to grad and undergrad students.

x. Bates: what is age group/grade level breakdown

(1) Majority are undergraduate- 70% and 30% are doctoral level students

xi. Hahs: can you speak on the opportunities for studying abroad and receiving scholarships?

(1) Mckenna-Makela: Funding is given through endowments up to \$2500. Can be given for an exceptional learning opportunity that will help your leadership development. They will help you write your proposal and review the proposal and it is great practice on advocating for yourself. Can be for other opportunities besides studying abroad.

(2) Kidd: got to go to a seminar in Washington DC which was great

b. Johnson Center: Workshop

i. Schmidt: motions to lapse the use of Robert's Rules until 5:45 pm to work on revising the bylaws

(1) Everly- 2nd

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- (2) Schmidt: move to carry with unanimous consent
 - (3) Passes
 - (4) Senate votes to lapse the use of Robert's Rules until 5:45 pm to work on revising the bylaws
- ii. Sharp-Eizinger: what are bylaws?
 - (1) Schmidt: list of rules that control the internal workings of an organization
 - iii. Sharp-Eizinger: they typically include: name and purpose, requirements for membership, officer's titles and responsibilities, how officers are elected, how meetings should be conducted, how often meetings will be held
 - (1) Bylaw: basic organizational structure, how senators are directed and appointed, quorum for general meetings.
 - (2) Policy: committee protocol, code of conduct, decisions the executive committee can make
 - (3) Procedures: severe weather guideline, disciplinary procedures, how meeting minutes are distributed
 - iv. Sharp-Eizinger: Impression of current bylaws?
 - (1) Quist: thinks they are very inconsistent and vague
 - (2) Proctor: thinks they are outdated, don't align with the needs of the current body
 - (3) Frappier: real changes have not been made since his freshman year, and a lot has changed in the world since then. They have been working really hard internally to stay in practice with the governing documents this year so they have stumbled on inconsistencies. Looking forward to making sure the next body has less issues.
 - (4) Al Moutaa: it leads to a lot of misinterpretations. They are not clear.
 - (5) DerPilbosian: unnecessary bureaucracy
 - (6) Overheard: sitting on a shelf, gut the entire thing, lengthy, overwhelming, difficult to revise, very important to student senate functions, we owe it to the next senate body
 - v. Timeline: now- identify potential amendments, next few weeks- CTF team will review edits, by spring- university legal will review, $\frac{2}{3}$ vote to pass the final bylaws, hopefully will be effective for the next body
 - (1) Kidd: they will go up at the 2nd to last final meeting and then will go up for voting on the final GA, which is also the final consulting session.
 - vi. Changes from brainstorming session:
 - (1) Hallead: Article I.02-the way they did election this year is working, changing to 25 members of the student body and 1 faculty member. Take out the last sentence. Article II.04- wondering what the purpose of a write in is?

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- (a) Biermacher: it is a democratic election, voted on by students, there has to be a write in option
 - (b) Hallead: then suggests changing change the threshold
 - (2) Hallead: Article I.07.d- they should add that the candidate leaves the room.
 - (3) Kidd: should clarify for public comment, that they can only respond with “thank you for your comment”
 - vii. Everly: main thing they came across was unnecessary repetition, article III- comments on verbage things, main change was section 3.02 and 3.03- both list the same parties that you have to go through, so it could be condensed to not confuse people. Nothing to say about article IV.
 - (1) Kidd: office operations, unless just the structure, would be moved into policies and procedures
 - (2) Schmidt: change the article name to executive office
 - viii. Hahs: Article X- condense a few things- section X.02- combine b and c, does not think h is necessary. Article XI.02.d- change to maintain liaisons to make consistent, make sure it is a colon instead of a comma at the end. E can be struck
 - (1) Kidd: d could be reworked, each year it is going to be different
 - (2) Frappier: some of these things that are in the committee descriptions should be things that all of the student senate should be addressing.
 - ix. Flickinger: Article IX- looks good, X- thinks g and h are the same thing, Bucon said that it is tough to get Allendale and Pew campuses together which is why there are different subsections. These articles regarding each committee talk about the purpose and responsibilities, those are not bylaws, all that is covered in the SRC document, so they might need to flip flop them.
 - (1) Frappier: correct
 - (2) Mandy: what authority each committee has should be noted in the bylaws
 - x. Kidd: echoes Flickinger’s thoughts, multiple contradictions in conduct and impeachment systems but also multiple pages on procedures, which do not belong here.
 - (1) Biermacher: echoes for subcommittees
 - (2) Mandy: Bylaws are often used as a catchall which is not helpful, bylaws should be used to guide your operations and they are trying to be everything to everyone and that is not helping anyone.
 - xi. Bucon: Article VIII.03- this year they liked having inservice in both semesters but right now it is only optional for the winter semester. Thinks it would be smart to have it in both semesters.

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- xii. Frappier: really enjoys everyone working through this. Clare noticed that even the roman numerals are wrong for article XVIII, so there are lots of additions and edits to make.

IV. Five (5) Minutes to Pass the Papers

- i. Haas: has a sign up sheet for tabling in Kirkhof for Last Lecture

V. President's Report

- a. Adoption of the Agenda
- b. Thanks everyone for their patience and participation today.
- c. Thanks everyone for their assistance with the President's Ball, hopes everyone had fun and enjoyed being a part of this tradition.
- d. State of the Student body is 2/16 at 5pm in Pere Marquette- you are all expected to be here but it will be a much shorter meeting than you are used to. It is an address that your cabinet members give to stakeholders and campus members. There will be food. They have a good RSVP list so far, 20 people outside of the senate body that will be attending.
- e. USG Conference- February 25 9am-6pm at Central Michigan University. This is a learning opportunity. They have 6 seats remaining- her, Frappier, Everly, and Haas will be in attendance. Let her know if you are interested in attending, they will do ride sharing. If you plan on running for cabinet you really should attend this.
- f. CTF starts next week, it will be downtown. She will be providing brunch following CTF once a month.
- g. Her and Schmidt will be sending legislation soon
- h. Next week will be a normal GA at 4:30pm
- i. If you want to attend the USG conference, slack or email her. They will work with Valerie if there are more people who want to attend than seats that they have available.
- j. Hallead: When is the conference?
 - i. Kidd: Will be leaving at 7am and returning at 9pm on February 25 but it may go late
- k. Proctor: Do we need to RSVP for state of the student body?
 - i. Kidd: No, you are expected to be there. It can be casual dress.
- l. Kidd: the sooner the better for the USG conference, RSVP deadline is end of day on Friday February 10th.

VI. Executive Vice President's Report

- a. Approval of the Minutes
 - i. Stand approved

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- b. Next UAS meeting is tomorrow, 3-5pm- will be reaching out to those who have signed up tomorrow morning. Looking forward to that. It is downtown in DeVos. Looks forward to bringing updates next week.
- c. Next BOT meeting is 2/24 in Seidman Center downtown, recommends attending if you have time
- d. CTF is Sundays from 12:00pm-1:30pm downtown.
- e. USG is really fun, you should consider going if you can.
- f. Proctor: CTF time and day?
 - i. Frappier: Sundays from 12:00pm-1:30pm downtown, will share more details soon. Will either be in DeVos or Seidman. There will be brunch following once a month.
- g. Hallead: Is CTF starting this Sunday or next Sunday?
 - i. Frappier: next sunday, will start with SRC policies and procedures
- h. Quist: is it once a week or once a month?
 - i. Kidd: they will occur every sunday from next week until April 5, but the brunch will be monthly.

VII. Unfinished Business

- a. Elections Commission
 - i. Schmidt: currently pushing petitions out to RSOs, trying to reach out to as many as possible. Great work from Biermacher and Bucon in the Lanthorn and PR strategy. Thankful for all of his commission members.
 - ii. Kidd: when are petitions due?
 - (1) Schmidt: February 24 at 5:00 pm, any later and it will be rejected

VIII. New Business

- a. Appointments
- b. Nominations and Elections for Vice President of Campus Affairs
 - i. Kidd: seeding none, EVP Frappier will continue to serve in this role as interim

IX. Five Minute Recess

- a. Meeting called back to order: 6:06pm

X. Public Comment – Part II

XI. Officer Reports

- a. **Senate Resources** – Mallory Everly
 - i. There are 2 interviews after adjournment today. After this round of interviews, recruitment for this academic year will be officially closed. Anyone who submits an application through Lakerlink from this point on will be provided with information

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- regarding the upcoming elections cycle, as well as how to go about applying next Fall if they so choose.
- ii. Senator Quist sent out some information regarding a bonding event at a Trampoline Park earlier this week. Working to find options that are the most affordable for people interested in attending, so stay tuned for more info on that. The dates provided within the Slack may change slightly due to the fact that CTF will be starting that Sunday.
 - iii. There was a little bit of a problem with the Office Hours form at the beginning of the week. The issue has been resolved so it should be good to go. Additionally, please make sure that you are submitting your Office Hours by Friday at 5:00pm. There was a relatively high amount of people who missed the deadline last week, so please make sure that you are keeping them in mind.
 - iv. Appropriate Behavior: Political Discussions- Please keep in mind that if you are talking about anything politically related within the office, that the conversations must be kept respectful. If it seems as though things are not being communicated in a respectful and appropriate manner. Also, please be mindful of the fact that Student Senate is an apolitical organization meaning that we are not affiliated with any political party. In terms of profanity, there is absolutely NO profanity allowed within the Office or any spaces directly affiliated with the Student Senate. This also includes inappropriate name calling of any kind for students, professors, and staff.
 - v. Quist: what qualifies as profanity?
 - (1) Everly: any usual everyday swear words, derogatory words, and blatantly disrespectful words.
 - vi. Bates: What authority do we have to limit free speech?
 - (1) Kidd: when you sign onto student senate you agree to adhere to the governing documents, and SRC policies and procedures clearly states that no profanity is allowed. Think of this as your workspace.
 - vii. Al Moutaa: does this cover other languages?
 - (1) Kidd: does not really have an answer for this
 - viii. Everly: that's why she didn't say don't talk about politics, because she doesn't feel right limiting what people talk about. She trusts everyone to make sure they are being respectful.
 - ix. Kidd: behave like the beautiful upstanding citizens that you are.
- b. **Allocations** – Benjamin Biermacher
- i. Meeting tomorrow at 1:30pm in KC 2215/2216.

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- ii. Had ignite last week, there was great attendance and they did a great job answering a lot of good questions.
 - iii. Budget talks have started, reach out if you have suggestions and feedback, always want to hear. Be prepared for those meetings.
 - c. **Public Relations** – Emily Bucon
 - i. Thanks everyone for their help with Pres ball
 - ii. Senate swag form closed on Tuesday, will update when it is shipped
 - iii. Attended ignite, Biermacher did a great job
 - iv. Working on promotions for Last Lecture, State of the Student Body, reaching out to RSOs, and updating the website
 - v. Fill out senator of the month form
 - vi. Personally is working on reaching out to RSOs and elections commission
 - d. **Campus Affairs** – (Interim) EVP Frappier
 - i. Slow start, but everything is going well. Main focus is going to be ElectHer, Senator Hoogwerf will be handling that. Bring any questions to her, if you want to be involved.
 - ii. Meeting with housing is being set up and Kidd has been meeting with athletics. Liaison roles are not being forgotten.
 - e. **Educational Affairs** – Lina Haas
 - i. Last lecture invitations went out to Melba Velez-Ortiz and Rachel Miller-Adams, both accepted. Professor Ortiz asked that all promotions list her as Professor Chad because she will be speaking entirely from her dog's point of view. Catering will be provided, please sign up to table.
 - ii. Black History month table is in the library, encourages everyone to check it out.
 - iii. Met with Erica Hamilton and Pamela Wells, they are working on updating course descriptions to include objectives and other details so students know more before registering for a class and also when transferring classes. Also discussed course materials cost transparency, that is one of their main objectives and they will be speaking on this at UAS in February, her and Senator Hahs are planning on attending to show student support. Further notes on both topics are in the drive, feel free to reach out if you have questions.
 - iv. Hahs is brainstorming ways on how to educate faculty on the resources available to them to implement OER.
 - v. Kidd: thinks EAC is doing a great job and thanks them for their hard work.
 - f. **Diversity Affairs** – Larbi Al Moutaa

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- i. Student wages legislation will be discussed at UAS tomorrow, looking forward to it. Encourages you to come if you are available.
 - (1) Kidd: they can bring 4 people, Frappier will confirm any open seats in the slack.
- ii. There is no time in the week that all committee members can meet, there will be an asynchronous meeting where senators provide updates. On Sundays at 10am, he will be in the office and available for any questions or discussions with any senators who can make it,
 - (1) Schmidt: What template are you going to use for this asynchronous meeting?
 - (a) Al Moutaa: every Friday an announcement document including all updates will be sent and a document with a section for every senator to put an update and a liaison update will be sent.
 - (b) Schmidt: what authority do you have to restructure the way they do absences?
 - (c) Everly: was wondering the same thing. If people are not showing up to meetings that is an absence. This changes the way absences are collected.
 - (d) Kidd: requests that each member of DAC meets with Kidd and Everly immediately following the adjournment of this meeting.
- g. **External Relations – Zachary Schmidt**
 - i. Schrader reached out to Allendale Public schools to see if they want to do another event this year like they did last year, but they passed in a rather harsh email. He is also working on a safety bill for freshman housing regarding access keypads and doors being locked.
 - ii. Flickinger is working on his allocations project
 - iii. Went to the Ottawa county board meeting- 62 public commenters. Comments were 60% in favor and 40% against recent changes
 - iv. Working on legislation with Kidd and on the elections commission

XII. University Committee Reports

- a. Frappier: will share more information following UAS tomorrow, most of the updates from ECS last week were only pertinent to faculty.
- b. Kidd: met with the intercollegiate athletic advisory board, will be setting up standing meetings with a member of the student athletes advisory board to make sure their needs are being met.

XIII. Roll Call - Part II

XIV. Call for Announcements

- a. Everly: thanks everyone for the senator of the month nomination. If anyone is interested in running for SRC VP next year, she would love to chat with you.
- b. Haas: thanks VP Schmidt for not putting a time limit on reports

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- c. Schmidt: thanks whoever nominated him for senator of the month, thinks everyone deserves senator of the month.
 - d. Proctor: congrats to Schmidt and Everly for becoming senator of the month for January. Keep filling out nominations for senator of the month.
 - e. Frappier: this has been a really crazy week for him, make sure you are taking care of yourself. Needs to chat with Everly, Roubos, Procor, and Schrader after adjournment about UAS.
 - f. Kidd: will begin cabinet after interviews and her meeting with DAC.

XV. Adjournment: 6:30pm